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State Officials Raid Amish Farmer, Seize Stock of Food

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture uses Amish farmer's refusal to pasteurize milk as excuse to raid farm and confiscate cheese and other products in Michigan and New York. Miller's lawyer called the sudden raid "extremely disturbing and unprecedented."

By Dr. Joseph Mercola

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Who: A 4-day, state-wide raid. Subscribe to The Defender's Top News of the Day **It's free.**

Where: Michigan and New York.

- Amish farmer Amos Miller, owner of Miller's Organic Farm in Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania, is the target of the raid. Miller's farm is also a drop-off point for a private membership association.
- In a coordinated effort, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture raided Miller's farm, seizing cheese products and placing padlocks on the refrigerators coming from assorted towns and roughly a year-long "collection."
- According to a local news article from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the raid netted "about $100,000 worth of food."
- Miller's cheese-making practices have been under scrutiny by regulators for more than a decade.

The Amish live life much the way it was 300 years ago, and this includes practicing the majority of their own self-care.

Amish farmer Amos Miller, owner of Miller's Organic Farm in Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania, is the target of a raid by state officials who claim it refers to the community via a private membership association.

Thousands of customers depend on Miller's farm-fresh food, but they may soon be left empty-handed.

Miller's traditional farming practices have been under scrutiny by regulators for more than a decade, and a January 7th Facebook post by Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, searching for raw dairy products and placing ambivalence between the lines, suggests that the raid was premeditated.

According to local food writers Alex Beene and Jon Stelzer, the raid netted about $100,000 worth of food.

Miller's lawyer, Brian Hunkler, called the sudden raid "extremely disturbing and unprecedented."

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In an emailed statement, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) described two cases of listeriosis, attributing them to products from Miller's Organic Farm.

By 2019, the court-authorized law enforcement officers in accompanying USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) investigators during inspections at Miller's home and farm, despite his access to a medical alert.

During these investigations, the USDA demanded food purchase records during the raid, which Miller's lawyer called "extremely disturbing and unprecedented."

While Miller assumed the investigation stemmed from the CDC's report on listeriosis, it was actually launched by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the USDA in March 2015, predating the CDC's identification of the listeria "outbreak" linked to Miller's farm.

In 2012, Miller continued to face ongoing scrutiny from the USDA, including whether sick by animal federal employees by the Pennsylvania.

The government attempted to issue hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines, which would essentially put the farm out of business.

Robert Kane called this a so-called smear campaign "to attack six Amish religious farmers," Miller's lawyer said.

Farm-and-delivered ownership illegal

The January raid stems from accusations from Michigan and New York states' Departments of Agriculture against Ag-Mart Produce, employed from Miller's raw milk or raw milk products.

As reported by Food Safety News:

> "This time, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture executed a duly issued search warrant on Amos Miller and Miller's Organic Farm.
>
> "The state's responsibility was to determine if raw eggnog and other unpasteurized, raw dairy products produced on the farm were responsible for positive Shiga toxin-producing E. Coli tests in Michigan and New York. Those tests resulted in the CDC's identification of the listeria 'outbreak' linked to Miller's farm.
>
> "The state's rules require antivirus notices, reasonable time frames for inspections, and a showing of credentials, none of which occurred here.
>
> "Instead, the state unlawfully obtained a search warrant based on misrepresentations and omissions of fact. The state's affiant, a food safety officer in an agency with a known grievance against Amos Miller's farm for failure to test, after the raid and finding no evidence of wrongdoing, then illegally retained the property seized in the raid for over 30 days without a court hearing or opportunity to be heard.
>
> "The detention order is patently illegal under Pennsylvania law. Despite the constant harassment, Amos and Miller's cows are healthy. There is no reason the food his members deeply need. Amos thanks you for your continued support as this crisis took his food freedom to court."

Raw milk has long been symbolic of food freedom

In Hillsmere, humans have consumed "raw" milk, also referred to as fresh milk, as it was the sole type of milk available.

However, economy raw milk has become increasingly challenging for Americans in numerous states, requiring them to navigate various obstacles to procure this natural and nutritious food.

The decision to sell, purchase and consume raw milk should rest with the consumer, not the government, which is why many have chosen to

As a campaign by Real Milk outlined the stark difference in incentive for farmers selling conventional, pasteurized milk compared to those selling raw milk — and why many to see why Big Dairy wants to keep raw milk illegal.

A conventional dairy farmer may receive about $16 per hundredweight — or 100 pounds — of milk, while a raw milk farmer may receive $40 per gallon.

In contrast, a farmer selling raw, grass-fed dairy directly to consumers will have the ability to set their own prices, which can be as much as $40 per gallon, a healthier contrast to the customers.

But as Miller's case demonstrates, it's been still raw milk to consumers in states where it's not allowed, they can find certain raw milk products can be shipped with from and at the time.

Raw milk undeniably serves as a nutrient-rich food, boasting essential nutrients, fats, anti-inflammatory properties, beneficial enzymes, probiotics and additional health-promoting components.

Its consumption has been associated with a decreased prevalence of asthma, allergies, eczema and experience a lower risk.

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Farmers facing persecution worldwide

Why are governments so intent on targeting small operators of food dollars delivering farm-fresh foods to local residents?

As long as farmers are prevented from selling to consumers directly, processors can and go into a the market, ultimately leading to the intentional destruction of small farms. Big Dairy has successfully lobbied for regulations that benefit its operations, as CNBC data farms using thousands of cows have increased.

This isn't only an issue in the U.S., however. Many Dutch farmers and facing the for the same reasons.

The Dutch government claims it needs to nationalize half of cattle farmers' land in an amount equal to about one-third of Holland — but the government's own experts say this plan is seriously flawed.

Like the cracking down on an Amish farmer providing wholesome food to their neighbors, raising scores of farmers' considerable resources into the hands of corporations that have no interest in the health of the people or the land.

Miller and other farmers are also targeted as aggressive enforcement of federal regulations, which is why supporting the Processing Renewal and Innovate Meat Processors, or PRIME Act is another way to fight for food freedom.

Under current government regulations, the USDA, not individual states, has jurisdiction over meat processing. The PRIME Act would change that, allowing state-only businesses to have their animals slaughtered at slaughterhouses that meet federal inspection standards.

Such custom slaughterhouses are not permitted to sell any of their meat to grocery stores, schools or restaurants.

The PRIME Act, introduced by Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), would allow farmers to sell meat processed at these smaller slaughtering facilities and allow states to set their own meat-processing standards.

Because small slaughterhouses do not have an inspector on staff — a requirement under the law — they can easily fulfill — they're required to have only one inspector.

The PRIME Act would do this regulation without sacrificing safety, as random USDA inspections could still occur.

The act would make much more affordable and available while protecting the livelihoods of small farmers like Miller.

Ultimately, the solution to ensuring food safety and security resides within a decentralized food system, where consumers have the opportunity to choose the farmers who cultivate grow, sustainably grown food and donate it locally.

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The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Children's Health Defense.

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By Joseph Mercola

Joseph Mercola is the founder of Mercola.com.

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about those inspections. I'm concerned because the inspector who has worked with me for over 20 years is retiring this year and a new power hungry youngin is replacing him AND it's a woman. With that didn't sound sexist but I'm a woman and I know all about how some women are too despotic as a means to over-compensate for their insecurities.

4 · 0 · Reply

Jane · @Christine · 2 months ago

But that would not make their overlords happy, and they'll lose their job. We all need to get more cows, and make our own milk and cheese. If we all own a cow, then we can say it is milk from my own cow... I'm not selling milk to anyone. Buy Millers cows. Pay them for maintaining your cow, which involves milking it. Then no one has to pay for raw milk.

0 · 0 · Reply

GluvOnToMe · @Jane · 2 months ago

We've gotten around it where I live by buying raw milk for "pet consumption" only. Of course WE would never consume something that hasn't undergone rigorous scrutiny from such valuable agencies like the FDA and USDA, who of course have OUR best interests in mind.

4 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · @Jane · 2 months ago

Brilliant idea! In VA, we get raw milk through herd shares. I wonder how long that will last?

0 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · @Christine · 2 months ago

What's the story about the Amish pregnant woman who was murdered this week? Do you know?

0 · 0 · Reply

BChristine · @Beatrice · 2 months ago

Hi Beatrice ... Spartansburg PA where this happened is about 5 hours North of the Lancaster PA Amish country where Millers farm is. Such a horrible and very rare event in any peaceful Amish country. This was actually much closer to where I grew up in Ohio.
They are still investigating, but how traumatic for the community.

1 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · @Christine · 2 months ago

I get the feeling they are looking at the husband as a suspect? Makes me very skeptical if that is true. The media made some comment about how being pregnant puts women at the most risk of domestic homicide and that angered me since that only applies to abusive relationships/marriages.

0 · 0 · Reply

Elizabeth Healey-Hammack
2 months ago

This has to be stopped the Government has surpassed its intended use

10 · 0 · Reply

Benj Clarke · @Elizabeth Healey-Hammack · 2 months ago

Big time.

0 · 0 · Reply

Jane · 2 months ago

They have killed many thousands more with their vaccines, flu shots, remdesivir, and ventilators, than Miller s farm can ever make sick in thousands of years.
Obviously a ploy to degrade further our food and lives for their human genocide.

11 · 0 · Reply

ojae · 2 months ago

430+ unconstitutional government agencies need to be abolished. It would definitely cut the deficit.
U.S. Department of Agriculture is Developing a Vaccine for a Virus It's Already Making More Infectious and Deadly with Gain-of-Function Experiments
https://joinfleetwood.substa...

11 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · ojae · a month ago

Ramaswamy would agree and he had plans to abolish many bureaucratic bs depts.

0 · 0 · Reply

Jane · ojae · 2 months ago

Hey make a list.

0 · 0 · Reply

Ricky Ricardo
2 months ago

The evil criminal cartel want us all eating lab-grown frankencrap and bugs!!!

10 · 0 · Reply

Carol C
2 months ago

This country is being run by Nazi Communists

10 · 0 · Reply

Jeanette Johnson · Carol C · 2 months ago

Under the disguise of democrat.

9 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · Carol C · 2 months ago

Literally! This is really frightening and depressing.

2 · 0 · Reply

Kim from Brooklyn
2 months ago

Every day, every minute there is something to rear its ugly head. It's out of control for sure. And as much as it is horrible, I wonder how many people are actually doing EVEN ONE THING differently then before we knew all of this?

It's one thing to spread bad news, it's another to sit back and expect the world to change when we are not doing anything to change it.

Who on this board can say they have done something significantly different to change the ugliness?

I will start.

When my contract expires for my cell, I am cancelling it. No more cell phone. One less bill. One less 5G radiated device in my home..

Next.....

5 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · Kim from Brooklyn · 2 months ago

Thank you Kim. You and I share the same passion and willingness to discipline ourselves to create a different future for all of us. I really wish that more people would get on board with us but look at how many people respond to your post. I have noticed that when I post about getting off social media or getting off devices, very few if any respond. Avoidance! Guilt? Shame? Technology has done nothing good for humanity that humans could not have achieved by themselves in time and frankly, better. Just look at the news about mental health, perverts online, digital related crimes and murders, how corporations are abusing the digital platforms to scam people and 'accidentally' steal or 'borrow' their money. It's all evil to me. I want to live with peace of mind the way I used to - even during difficult times!

For over a month, I've not shopped at a grocery store and only purchase from local farmers and crafters and artisans. I'm finding all sorts of creative ways to make soap, cleaners and I don't use paper towels now which eliminates having to visit the grocery. I'm sure I will have to purchase shampoo online since I can't get it locally and my hair MUST have this particular shampoo but that's about the only thing that is a must for me. I have a mobile phone but I don't use it and it doesn't have a SIM card in it. I have it for emergencies only. I pay about 12 dollars a month and can cancel at any time (I use Ting) but when my phone battery dies (in the next few months) I will get a burner phone with minutes that one purchases that never expire. That way it's always there for emergencies. Plus, I heard an FBI agent teach about how to purchase a burner phone like tracphone and he said that for maximum privacy, get the store to activate it and you choose an area code that is not your own.

XXOO

4 · 0 · Reply

Yaron Nahum
2 months ago

Unbelievable, this is an assault on freedom. This has nothing to do with public health concern. This is why they want to eliminate any ability to grow healthy organic food and to have us only eat processed poison, drink fluoride, get vaccinated, affirm our sexual orientation, drive electric cars, sacrifice energy for global warming scam, get consumed by social media, get EMF exposure, invent ongoing world crisis like wars and scamdemics. Get rid of religion for a new form of scientism. When do people wake up and realize this is not left and right issues, this is attack on humanity.

4 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · Yaron Nahum · 2 months ago

Amen. It's a spiritual crisis where evil (and I mean, literally) has gained control over the masses by psychologically and intellectually weakening people with technology, psychotropic medications, immoral and perverted temptations, unhealthy foods, etc... The lack of discipline observed in so many today is the result of using too much technology that was designed to lure a person in with unnecessary and novel conveniences that would anesthetize the frontal cortex of the brain that controls impulsive behavior and puts the breaks on. Psychotropic drugs like SSRIs and sugar have that same effect on the brain leaving the patient with little to no discipline in or agency over one's life. The person will then become the victim - completely dependent on the system. There is no freedom for any of us if we are not assuming total responsibility over our own life.

M.Scott Peck once said that discipline is the only protection we have from evil. When we teach ourselves and our children discipline, we are teaching them and ourselves how to suffer with resiliency and how to grow and accrue wisdom. Discipline is the basic set of tools that we need to solve life's problems through discernment and our values.

3 · 0 · Reply

Joey Dee · edited · 2 months ago

What they really want after they destroy his business and he has no customers, they will find a way to steal his FARM AND ALL THE LAND!

4 · 0 · Reply

realbluebaby
2 months ago

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION PERSONAFIED! TAKE IT TO THE US SUPREME COURT!

4 · 0 · Reply

lakewoodsteve
2 months ago

Hormone & antibiotic laced milk, homogenized in a blast furnace to kill all nutrient value, is what keeps the BIG milk industrial complex up & running! Like the Mob, Big Milk has Department of Agriculture for infocers! Paid for by us suckers! Wouldn a prop 65 style warning be good enough for the Big milk cartel? Or do they just want them out of competition. Mob style?

4 · 0 · Reply

Frederick Lee
2 months ago

First, the political powers have ulterior motives: Make no mistake, somebody wants his property. They don't care about two listeria'n coli cases in Michigan or New York.
Second, the federal law against transporting unpasteurized milk was passed in 1987. Which means that somehow, before refrigeration was affordable and prevalent, before scientific food tests were simplified, before food labelling could be researched and was more accurate and transparent, many people were lucky to be alive after consuming non-pasteurized milk. Then, after 1987, with passage of the law prohibiting unpasteurized milk from being transported across state lines (shall we call this period the Prohibition?), society as a whole no longer needed to worry about illness triggered from unpasteurized milk.
The judges, both state and federal, can do the right thing and declare the law un-Constitutional because it addresses a problem that does not exist. Instead, with this raid, it is used to abuse and coerce people that are not politically connected, such as the defendant.
And, Pennsylvania is the state that gave us insight into how corrupted judges and politicians can thrive, (for example: https://crawlaw.findlaw.com...) that it will be a long time before any form of justice comes out of that state.

3 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · Frederick Lee · 2 months ago

We need to compile a list of suspicious incidents that are driving people from their homes and land and take notice of the land or industries surrounding them in some cases. They are using personal property taxes (inflated) to break people into bankruptcy, developers are paying counties and cities to annex entire neighborhoods to force homeowners to sell so that Goliath (google) and Amz can build their massive cloud centers, insurers are denying further coverage and pulling out of states, destructive storms and fires that seem suspicious and man made or generated (haarp), homes have been extremely overvalued and the interest rate is absurd. I'm sure there are even more tactics being used. None of us is safe no matter where we live or whether we own or rent.

3 · 0 · Reply

Millicent Fenwick · Beatrice · 2 months ago

New York State is currently drafting a "bipartisan" bill to prep for the "next pandemic." Included in the strategies is the possibility of "culling specific species of animals that could spread viruses to humans."
Notwithstanding the slaughter of tens of millions of chickens last year and other livestock in recent times, just imagine if some virus "expert" says that your family dog or cat is somehow responsible for spreading disease and needs to be destroyed!

Embedded in the url below is a link to the actual proposed document. Scary times are ahead unless people STOP COMPLYING!

https://news.yahoo.com/next...

2 · 0 · Reply

Beatrice · Millicent Fenwick · 2 months ago

Hi Millicent. I hear you loud and clear and am very aware of what our so very bleak future looks like. Watch Jordan Peterson's testimony to a congressional committee yesterday. Horrifying, depressing and frankly, leaves me feeling empty of words and hope.

SO, the WEF doesn't want us to have pets at all. If you saw the footage of the CCP bagging up the domestic pets and leaving them on the street until they were shot and killed, then you were looking at the blueprint of our future. Anyone who thinks that the CCP/PRC isn't the blueprint for our future is being naive or in denial. The pet foods and medications that vets are giving our pets are killing them. My dog passed in December and I'm afraid to resume another one because I fear going to a vet in the same way I fear going to a human doctor. Everyone needs to get off their devices and return to a more mechanical /analog lifestyle as much as possible. I can't sound that warning loud enough!!!!!

1 · 0 · Reply

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